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WHOLESALE RETAIL DRUGGISTS
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DRUGGISTS' SUNDRIES.
And
STERILIZED WATER MAKERS.
SHIPS' MEDICINE CHESTS REFITTED.
PASSENGER SUITS SUPPLIED.

NOTICE.—To avoid delay in the execution of Orders it is particularly requested that all business communications be addressed to the Firm, A. S. Watson & Co., or
HONGKONG DISPENSARY. [2]

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LEA AND PERBINS' SAUCE
The Original and Genuine.

WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE bears the signature of Lea and Perbins on a red label. Sold wholesale by the Proprietors, Worcester, and Cross & Blackwell, London.

LEA AND PERBINS' SAUCE
Of Worcester and London
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NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.
Correspondents are requested to forward their names and addresses with communications addressed to the Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.
Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not ordered for a fixed period will be continued until countermanded.

Orders for extra copies of the Daily Press should be sent before 11 a.m. on the day of publication. After that hour the supply is limited.

DEATH.

At Bournemouth, on 23rd June, JOSEPH W. TOM, aged 18 years, of Hongkong, died of Cholera.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, AUGUST 8th, 1885.

"Has the Chinese Government shown any desire to employ American engineers in the construction of steamships and railways?" Such was the question put to Mr. John Russell Young by a San Francisco interviewer. "Yes," was the laconic answer of the ex-Minister to China; and there the subject dropped. It would be extremely interesting to know in what way the desire of the Chinese Government to employ American engineers in the construction of railways has manifested, as this would necessarily throw some light on the intentions of the Government with regard to the introduction of the iron way. In view of the railway clause in the new Franco-Chinese Treaty this is a subject on which any reliable information would be welcome. It seems that French engineers are already on the alert for contracts, being apparently under the impression that the new Treaty gives them some exclusive right, and Mr. FAYAT, who has been officially communicated with and has promised to forward to the Peking Government the demand of these enterprising gentlemen for permission to make surveys. We have on previous occasions expressed the opinion that the clause in question gives France no exclusive privilege, and that opinion is now borne out in the article by "Sinenia" which we reproduce in another column from the *Pail Mail* *Gazette*. According to this writer, Mr. HUNTER, as first refused to consider the question of railways in connection with the treaty, and said the negotiators were met to make peace, not a railway contract. Towards the conclusion of the negotiations it was represented to him that French manufacturers looked forward to great advantages from the treaty and that unless there was something in it to tickle their ears it would be very hard to get them to accept it. In then assented to the very vague clause which has proved to cause much discussion, with the stipulation that it should not be considered to constitute an exclusive privilege in favour of France. The *Pail Mail* *Gazette* writer adds that no doubt the Chinese statesman thought that if French ears were tickled with this they were very easily tickled indeed. The value of the clause for tickling the ear is not, however, altogether contemptible, seeing that some persons even in this part of the world were deceived as to its import. The *Japan Mail*, for instance, took the view that the employment of French experts was compulsory on China should she decide to construct railways, but that it was doubtful whether railroads and rolling stock were also to be procured in France. It is hardly a matter of surprise, therefore, if Frenchmen, with their sanguine temperament, look upon the clause as being distinctly and entirely in their favour. But the French are not the first in the field. In the American treaty of 1868 there is a stipulation to the effect that while the United States freely disclaim and disavow any intention or right to interfere in the domestic administration of China in regard to the construction of railroads, telegraphs, or other material internal improvements, yet "if at any time His Imperial Majesty shall determine to construct, or cause to be constructed, works of the character mentioned within the Empire, and shall make application to the United States to carry out that policy, the United States will in that case designate or authorize suitable engineers to be employed by the Chinese Government, and will recommend to other nations as equal compliance with such applications." This, like the clause in the French treaty, really means nothing at all; it binds neither party to anything material, for of course the American Government would be only too glad to further railway construction in China without the compulsion of a treaty stipulation. The clause was simply inserted at the request of the American plenipotentiary for the purpose of securing the mention of railways in the treaty and to act as a sort of recommendation for American engineers. That Mr.

HUNTER intended to agree to nothing more in the railway clause of the new French treaty than is agreed in the American treaty, is clearly shown by the uncompromising terms of the rider that, "This clause shall not be considered as constituting an exclusive privilege in favour of France." In Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK's Convention (unratified) which was under negotiation at the time the American treaty was concluded no similar mention is made of railways, the British Minister, in a despatch to his Government, expressing the opinion that great innovations were retarded rather than advanced by seeking to deprive the Chinese Government of all free will and spontaneity, that railways and telegraphs would come, but that the issue would be best left to the operation of time and those strong but often indirect influences which constant discussion and intercourse with foreign Representatives and their own European employes bring to bear on the minds and habits of thought, as well as the prejudices of the ruling classes in China. We are inclined to think that Sir RUTHERFORD was right in the policy here expressed, and that British railway constructors need entertain no fear that their interests will suffer because the subject of railways has not been violently dragged into any of our treaties with China. This is a matter in which it is inadvisable to leave the Chinese to follow the best of their own inclination, doing our best meanwhile by the methods indicated by Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK and any other legitimate methods free from compulsion that may suggest themselves, to turn that bent in a proper direction and one which shall accord with British interests.

We are informed by the Agents (Messrs. Butterfield & Swire) that the Ocean Steamship Co.'s steamer *Clara*, from London, left Singapore on Thursday for Hongkong.

The *Japan Mail* has the following:—"The latest news from Yokohama, communicated by a well known authority, is: 'By day, the less business we do, the more badly our mail makes.'"

President Cleveland has appointed William W. Rockhill, of Maryland, Secretary of the Legation of the United States to China, and Charles Dwyer, of New York, Secretary of the Legation of the United States to Japan.

The case of the people of the United States against A. B. Sprague, charged with shooting Mr. H. H. Young, proprietor of the *San Francisco Chronicle*, which has been proceeding for some time and occupied much attention in the Golden State, was concluded on the 1st inst. The jury retired at half past eleven, and at half-past five a verdict of *not guilty* was returned.

The reason for the retirement of the Russians from their depot at Nagasaki is thus explained by the *Japan Gazette*:—"The settlement at Nagasaki, opposite to Nagasaki, occupied by the Russian authorities as a species of naval station or coaling station, have been ordered to leave from Mr. Shirai, and as renewal could not be arranged, the land has been surrendered."

The *Japan Gazette* says:—"It is said that the proposition of General Comte de Ségur to hold a grand Asiatic exhibition in Japan in 1890 has been approved by the Government, and Mr. Ségur, a French diplomatist, is now in Hongkong, Mr. Taket, superintendent of the forests bureau, and several other officials have been appointed commissioners, while Viscount de Ségur, Mr. Taket, and Mr. Ségur will be nominated chief commissioners."

The American steamer *Quang-tai*, which arrived here yesterday morning from Hongkong, reports that the left on the 30th inst. reports having experienced heavy weather. On the 1st and 2nd inst. heavy rain fell from S.W. with strong winds. At 4 p.m. on the 2nd inst. a heavy rain fell from S.W. with strong winds. On the 3rd inst. a heavy rain fell from S.W. with strong winds. On the 4th inst. a heavy rain fell from S.W. with strong winds. On the 5th inst. a heavy rain fell from S.W. with strong winds. On the 6th inst. a heavy rain fell from S.W. with strong winds. On the 7th inst. a heavy rain fell from S.W. with strong winds. On the 8th inst. a heavy rain fell from S.W. with strong winds. On the 9th inst. a heavy rain fell from S.W. with strong winds. On the 10th inst. a heavy rain fell from S.W. with strong winds. On the 11th inst. a heavy rain fell from S.W. with strong winds. On the 12th inst. a heavy rain fell from S.W. with strong winds. 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